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FROM: U/SA - Dr. J.B. Koepfli, Science Adviser, Department of State

SUBJECT: Operation 63"

Col. Skinner of JIOA is the No. 2 man to Col. Ellis, the head of "Operation 63." Col. Skinner and Mr. Kennedy (GER) came over to brief me on the Operation. As background, it was explained that "Operation Paper Clip" was started the end of 1945. Originally, this was to bring between 200 and 300 scientists and technicians to the United States, either voluntarily or under duress. It was later extended to 1000. Of this number approximately 600 plus their families came voluntarily. There are now about 525 left in this country who will eventually become citizens. These people, for the most part, were brought to fill jobs previously arranged for in industry and universities.

Last fall the Air Force insisted that the remaining critical people be brought out before it was too late. "Operation Paper Clip" had been dragging along for the past two years and the Air Force lacked the funds or places to put people.

Accordingly, "Operation 63" was set up and a fund contributed by all three services under the direction of Col. Ellis and JIOA. The actual operations are carried out in the main by the Army. Essentially, the scheme is as follows:- The necessary I and N procedures and, where necessary, Ninth Proviso, are taken care of in advance. The German is then contacted and asked if he would be interested in a government contract in the re-armament program. There is no specification as to what he will do. If he is interested, he is given a six months' contract at the rate of $10,000. per year and brought to the United States on a temporary visa, together with his family. This is on a voluntary basis only. The first choice for the services of these people rests with the armed forces, - industry and the universities to get those remaining. The total number contemplated is 150 with their families. It is estimated that sixty will be definitely contracted for by June 30, 1951.

In answer to the question as to who made the contacts with the Germans chosen, it was stated that, in general, this was handled by Intelligence people of the Army and that they were in uniform.

Col. Skinner said that the Navy and Dr. Waterman, on learning recently about this operation, had objected violently and recommended that the whole thing be called off. They had further recommended that if such a program was considered necessary, then the contacts should be made by teams of university people in America, rather than by the military, and that previous arrangements should be made to have these people come over as visiting lecturers or the like. JIOA felt that had this suggestion been made initially it could have been carried out but the need is urgent and they have already gone so far in their plans that it is too late to change now.

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